

CONFIDENTIAL.]

REPORT

OF

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 14th April 1883.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

| No. | Names of newspapers. | Place of publication. | Number of subscribers. | Dates of papers received and examined for the week. |
|-----|---------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---|
| | BENGALI. | | | |
| | <i>Monthly.</i> | | | |
| 1 | "Bhārat Shramajivī" | Calcutta ... | 2,100 | |
| | <i>Fortnightly.</i> | | | |
| 2 | "Bhārat Hitaishī" | Burrisal ... | ..... | March 1883. |
| 3 | "Sansodhini" | Chittagong ... | 600 | 5th April ditto. |
| 4 | "Purva Pratidhwani" | Ditto ... | ..... |  |
| 5 | "Jātiya Suhrid" | Calcutta ... | ..... |  |
| 6 | "Tripurā Vārtāvaha" | Comillah ... | ..... | Falgun, second fortnight. |
| | <i>Weekly.</i> | | | |
| 7 | "Ananda Bazar Patrikā" | Comillah ... | 700 | 9th April 1883. |
| 8 | "Arya Darpan" | Ditto ... | ..... | 6th ditto. |
| 9 | "Bangabāsi" | Ditto ... | ..... |  |
| 10 | "Bārtābaha" | Pubna ... | ..... | 31st March & 7th April. |
| 11 | "Bhārat Bandhu" | Calcutta ... | ..... | 7th April 1883. |
| 12 | "Bhārat Mihir" | Mymensing ... | 671 | 10th ditto. |
| 13 | "Bengal Advertiser" | Calcutta ... | 2,000 | |
| 14 | "Bardwān Sanjivani" | Burdwan ... | 296 | 6th ditto. |
| 15 | "Chāruvārtā" | Sherepore, Mymensing | ..... |  |
| 16 | "Dacca Prakāsh" | Dacca ... | 350 | 8th ditto. |
| 17 | "Dūt" | Calcutta ... | ..... |  |
| 18 | "Education Gazette" | Hooghly ... | 745 | 6th ditto. |
| 19 | "Grāmvārtā Prakāshikā" | Comercolly ... | ..... | 7th ditto. |
| 20 | "Halisahar Prakāshikā" | Calcutta ... | ..... | 7th ditto. |
| 21 | "Hindu Ranjikā" | Beauleah, Rājshāhye... | 200 | 11th ditto. |
| 22 | "Medini" | Midnapore ... | ..... | 9th ditto. |
| 23 | "Murshidābād Patrikā" | Berhampore ... | 487 | 30th March 1883. |
| 24 | "Murshidābād Pratinidhi" | Ditto ... | ..... |  |
| 25 | "Navavibhākar" | Calcutta ... | 850 | 9th April 1883. |
| 26 | "Paridarshak" | Sylhet ... | ..... | 8th ditto. |
| 27 | "Prajā Bandhu" | Chandannagar ... | ..... | 10th ditto. |
| 28 | "Pratikār" | Berhampore ... | 275 | |

| No. | Names of newspapers. | Place of publication. | Number of subscribers. | Dates of papers received and examined for the week. |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|---|
| BENGALI—concluded. | | | | |
| Weekly. | | | | |
| 29 | "Rajshahye Samvād" | Beauleah | ..... | 5th & 12th April 1883. |
| 30 | "Rungpore Dik Prakāsh" | Kakiniā, Rungpore | 250 | |
| 31 | "Sādhārānī" | Chinsurah | 500 | 8th April 1883. |
| 32 | "Sahachar" | Calcutta | 500 | 9th ditto. |
| 33 | "Som Prakāsh" | Changripottā, 24-Perghs. | ..... |  |
| 34 | "Sudhākar" | Mymensing | ..... | 7th ditto. |
| 35 | "Sulabha Samāchār" | Calcutta | 4,000 | |
| 36 | "Srihatta Prakāsh" | Sylhet | 440 | |
| Daily. | | | | |
| 37 | "Samvād Prabhākar" | Calcutta | 700 | 5th to 12th April 1883. |
| 38 | "Samvād Purnachandrodaya" | Ditto | 300 | 7th to 11th ditto. |
| 39 | "Samachār Chandrikā" | Ditto | 625 | 7th to 12th ditto. |
| 40 | "Banga Vidya Prakāshikā" | Ditto | 500 | 7th to 11th & 13th ditto. |
| 41 | "Prabhātī" | Ditto | ..... |  |
| 42 | "Samāchār Sudhābarsan" | Ditto | ..... |  |
| ENGLISH AND URDU. | | | | |
| Weekly. | | | | |
| 43 | "Urdu Guide" | Calcutta | 365 | 7th April 1883. |
| HINDI. | | | | |
| Weekly. | | | | |
| 44 | "Bhārat Mitra" | Calcutta | 500 | 4th ditto. |
| 45 | "Sār Sudhānidhi" | Ditto | 200 | 9th ditto. |
| 46 | "Uchit Baktā" | Ditto | ..... | 7th ditto. |
| PERSIAN. | | | | |
| Weekly. | | | | |
| 47 | "Jām-Jahān-numā" | Calcutta | 250 | 6th ditto. |
| URDU. | | | | |
| Weekly. | | | | |
| 48 | "Akhhār-i-Darussaltanat" | Calcutta | ..... |  |
| Bi-Weekly. | | | | |
| 49 | "Amir-ul-Akhhār" | Calcutta | ..... |  |
| ASSAMESE. | | | | |
| Monthly. | | | | |
| 50 | "Assam Vilāsinī" | Sibsagar | ..... |  |
| URIYA. | | | | |
| Weekly. | | | | |
| 51 | "Utkal Dīpikā" | Cuttack | 200 | 31st March 1883. |
| 52 | "Utkal Darpan" | Balasore | 160 | 22nd ditto. |
| 53 | "Balasore Samvad Vāhika" | Ditto | 125 | |
| 54 | "Purusottam Patrikā" | Pooree | ..... |  |
| Fortnightly. | | | | |
| 55 | "Mayurbhunj Pākshik Pātrikā" | Mayurbhunj | ..... |  |
| HINDI. | | | | |
| Monthly. | | | | |
| 56 | "Kshatriya Patrikā" | Patna | ..... |  |

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

The *Tripurá Vártábaha*, for Falgun, makes the following comments on the Local Self-Government Bill:—The necessity for creating District Boards has been already indicated. As for the Central Board, nothing is known about it, but its name. Some information regarding its function and constitution should have been given. Considering the state of female education in this country, the total exclusion of women from all share in the work of local Self-Government is open to objection.

TRIPURA BARTABAHA,
Falgun 1883.

2. The *Bhārat Hitaishī*, for March, condemns the Rent Bill now before the Indian Legislative Council, on the ground that it will injure the best interests of the ryot. In the *first* place, the provisions relative to the enhancement of rents by zemindars are open to serious objection. It appears that the zemindars will be entitled to enhanced rates of rent if there is an increase in the fertility of the soil, provided that the ryot has had no hand in bringing about this increase. Now, it seems hardly just that zemindars should be allowed to take advantage of the increased fertility of their lands when that result is due to natural causes. The injustice of this provision becomes manifest when it is considered that there is no provision in the Bill to the effect that, when there is a fall in the price of agricultural produce, the ryot will be allowed to hold at a lower rate. *Secondly*, the provision for summary sales is objectionable. That, again, which confers on the ryot the power of transferring, either by sale or by gift, or otherwise, the occupancy right, is one which is calculated to hasten the ruin of the ryot.

BHARAT HITAISHI,
March , 1883.

3. A correspondent of the same paper asks the local Road Cess Committee to cause the construction of a bridge over the canal between *Ujirapore* and *Barhaika*. The want of a bridge is keenly felt by the inhabitants.

BHARAT HITAISHI.

4. The *Murshidabad Patriká*, of the 30th March, complains of the enforcement in Murshidabad of the bye-law of the local municipality prohibiting the erection of thatched huts in the town. This action is calculated to cause great hardship to the poor inhabitants.

MURSHIDABAD
PATEKIA,
March 30th, 1883.

5. The *Bártábaha*, of the 31st March, makes the following suggestions on the Local Self-Government Bill:—

BARTABAHA,
March 31st, 1883.

(1)—It is provided in the Bill that a Village Board should comprise in its jurisdiction not less than 500 inhabited houses, and that no two of these houses should be more than four miles apart from each other. Now this provision regarding the constitution of Village Boards should be changed. For 500 the Editor would like to read 250. This amendment is necessary in order to increase the number of Village Boards. Without a large number of these Boards the true end of local Self-Government will not be realized.

(2)—The Bill makes no adequate provision for supplying funds to Village Boards. The proceeds of village schools and dispensaries should be placed at their disposal to enable them to meet their expenses.

(3)—The Bill makes no distinction as regards property qualifications between those who would elect members of Village Boards and those who would be elected members of those Boards. This is objectionable on the ground that, members should

be men of greater respectability than electors. The writer would thus amend section 8 :—Those only among the electors should be entitled to membership, whose annual income is not less than Rs. 100.

- (4)—With a view to augment the limited funds at the disposal of Village Boards, a rule might be inserted in the Bill to the following effect :—That no voter should be allowed to see the budget estimates of Village Boards in original, but may on application be allowed to take out copies thereof, these applications costing one anna each. It is hoped that those who might take an active interest in the affairs of Village Boards would not grudge to pay the amount.

Referring to Local Boards :—

- (1)—Section 17 says that it is necessary that electors of Local Boards should be residents of some place, and have fixed and permanent habitation somewhere within the jurisdiction of those Boards. Considering the fact that service has now-a-days become a principal means of livelihood, and that most men absent themselves from their homes in quest of service, and reside in localities often situated at a great distance from their homes, it would be difficult to satisfy the above two conditions in most cases. The condition as to having a permanent habitation somewhere within the jurisdiction of a Local Board is therefore all that appears necessary. Lines 19 to 23 of section 17 should therefore be omitted. It is but reasonable to suppose that non-resident voters will not find it difficult to be present at home elections once in the year. If it be considered that they cannot be so present without some amount of difficulty and inconvenience on their part, the section referred to may be simplified by making the two conditions mentioned therein alternative, so that a man might be allowed to vote either for the place where his permanent habitation is situated, or for the place which is his temporary residence. Line 19 of the section, therefore, should have an *or* instead of the present *and*.

- (2)—The qualifications of members of Local Boards, as prescribed in the Bill, are again too high to allow the right of membership to be shared by many. The standard in this case requires to be lowered. Thus, instead of the payment of a road and public works cess, amounting to Rs. 100, and an annual income of Rs. 2,000, the Editor would like to fix the amounts, respectively, at Rs. 50 and Rs. 1,000.

- (3)—Again, the levying of application fees suggested in the case of Village Boards, might constitute a source of income to Local Boards also. Section 32 of the Bill should therefore be amended to that effect.

BHARAT MITRA,
April 6th, 1883.

6. The *Bhārat Mitra*, of the 5th April, remarks that Mr. Ilbert's Bill is calculated to test the firmness of the present administration. If the measure is not passed into law, the people will feel that they cannot any longer expect anything at the hands of this Government.

7. The *Rungpore Dikprakás*, of the 5th April, is sorry to notice that the policy of Local Self-Government should have been first introduced into Chota Nagpore and other places, where there is no chance of its working with success, to the exclusion of more advanced districts. The Editor remarks that this peculiar arrangement is wholly due to the present ruler of Bengal.

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH,
April 5th, 1883.

8. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 6th April, asks the Magistrate of Burdwan to establish a police outpost at Jougram. Upwards of twenty years ago there was an outpost in the village. Its subsequent abolition has led the lower classes to grow extremely aggressive. Thefts have become very common. As for village chowkidars, nobody can get a clue to their whereabouts: even the officers of police cannot find them out.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
April 6th, 1883.

9. The same paper is informed that the Bhagirathi, which flows by the east side of Cutwa, has silted up. Formerly the proceeds of the tolls collected at Jangipore and Swarupgunge used to be expended for the purpose of clearing the silts. But this practice has since been discontinued.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

10. Referring to the petition presented to the Lieutenant-Governor by some of the inhabitants of Kaiti in Burdwan, praying that a road be constructed from Kaiti to Uchalana, the same paper observes:—It appears that a European officer from Burdwan recently visited the place. He, however, did not think it necessary that the work prayed for should be undertaken by Government. On the contrary, he told the villagers to join all the roads in their village with the road, which was constructed under the auspices of the Mahomedan Emperors, and runs along its east side. The inhabitants, however, deprecate this proposal, on the ground that it will not promote their convenience.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

11. The *Bartábaha*, of the 7th April, makes the following observations on the Bengal Tenancy Bill:—

BARTABAHA,
April 7th, 1883.

The Bengal Tenancy Bill. In undertaking any legislation affecting the relations between landlord and tenant there are two things which ought to be always borne in mind. These are:—(1) that the landlord should be given facilities for a speedy realization of his rents; and (2) that the ryot should be protected from undue enhancement of rent and illegal ejectment. Unless these two points are attended to, any such legislation will never be beneficial. Now, although Mr. Ilbert has said that he has considered these points, the measure introduced by him does not show that they have received adequate consideration. It is firmly believed that the Bengal zemindars will cease to oppress their tenants if they are ensured fair rents and the punctual payment thereof. The Bengal Tenancy Bill, in spite of its many recommendations, labours under three grave defects, namely, it interferes unnecessarily; it does not remove existing defects; and it creates fresh difficulties. At the outset, the title of the Bill is open to objection. Instead of a title like that of the present Act, namely the Landlord and Tenant Act, the title of the proposed law is, the Bengal Tenancy Act. Indeed, the Bill is, in a considerable measure, a Bill for the tenant, framed in his interests. By this, of course, it is not meant to be said that the measure will really benefit him. In that case there would be no room for objection. As it is, though conceived in the interests of the tenant, it will, if passed into law, injure both the landlord and the tenant. Most of the provisions of the second chapter of the Bill are unnecessary and likely to prove injurious. There would have been

no ground for complaint if the framers of the Bill had contented themselves with only indicating the distinction between "ryoti" and "khamar" lands. But the case becomes different when they proceed to make provision for the survey and registration of these two classes of land. The reason assigned by the legislature for dealing, as they have done, with khamar and ryoti land, though it may partially exist in Behar, has no existence in Bengal, where, instead of converting ryoti land into khamar, the zemindars have for a long time let out khamar land to ryots. The consequence of this has been that the extent of khamar land has decreased. This view will be corroborated by the following considerations, namely that—(1) the number of ryots having increased, more land has been required for cultivation; that (2) the income derived from khamar land has decreased; and that (3) zemindars do not regard agriculture as a dignified occupation. In these circumstances the provisions of chapter II of the Bill are quite unnecessary—nay, may prove injurious, inasmuch as, if the Collector in making a survey should through error place land belonging to one class in another, there would be much needless, expensive, and harassing litigation. It is therefore exceedingly desirable that sections 7 to 13 of the Bill should be omitted.

URDU GUIDE,
April 7th, 1883.

12. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 7th April, asks Government to provide for the education of coolies sent out from India, and also to see that they receive the benefits of their respective religions during their residence in foreign countries.

SULABHA SAMACHAR,
April 7th, 1883.

13. The *Sulabha Samachar*, of the 7th April, condemns the system of examination introduced by Dr. Payne among medical practitioners in Government employ. In the *first* place, these examinations are unnecessary; *secondly*, they present difficulties to those who have already passed similar examination and won degrees. If the system is at all to prevail, there is no reason why the system should not be binding on all the medical officers in the service of Government. Even Dr. Payne himself should form no exception to the general rule. The Editor makes no doubt that Dr. Payne would surely consider himself in a very uncomfortable position if he were required to pass the examination.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASIKÁ,
April 7th, 1883.

14. A correspondent of the *Gramvarta Prakasika*, of the 7th April, complains of the manner in which a sub-committee of the Kushtea Municipality, charged with the duty of making a new assessment, have done their work. It would seem that the committee have prepared a list indicating the extent to which the old assessment should be increased. Now, in doing this they do not seem to have been guided by any intelligible principle. In many cases the assessment has been arbitrarily enhanced. In certain cases names of persons lodging in their friends' houses have been set down in the list of rate-payers.

PRABHATI,
April 7th, 1883.

15. The *Prabhati*, of the 7th April, thinks that it is the duty of the Lieutenant-Governor to take the recent cases of oppression, committed by soldiers in Barrackpore, into serious consideration without further delay. Nobody can account for the strange indifference which is being shown by His Honor to this matter.

PARIDARSAK,
April 8th, 1883.

16. The *Paridarsak*, of the 8th April, makes the following remarks on the report written by Mr. Johnson, the Deputy Commissioner of Sylhet, on the introduction of Local Self-Government into that district:—

(1)—Mr. Johnson's belief that Government officers work more efficiently than natives is unfounded.

- (2)—It is not true, as Mr. Johnson thinks, that natives are more fond of living in the present "hugger-mugger" way than of paying taxes at an increased rate. Natives object to the assessment of new taxes simply because they believe that the revenue derived from these taxes will be spent for the benefit of the Englishman.
- (3)—The proposal made by Mr. Johnson to make every census circle send representatives to the (local Board?) is objectionable, because of the fact that these circles are arbitrarily fixed, being decided upon by a mere reference to survey maps. Some of these circles lack able men: in others, again, the population is very small. As for the appointment of members, instead of Mr. Johnson's method of nomination, it is desirable to introduce the elective system from the very beginning.
- (4)—According to Mr. Johnson there ought to be 25 members selected from the rank of tea-planters in Sylhet. This conclusion will appear erroneous if one will only consider the fact that there are but a hundred Englishmen in all Sylhet.

17. The *Dacca Prakás*, of the 8th April, complains of municipal mismanagement in that town. Sometimes several months pass away before any orders

DACCA PRAKAS,
April 8th, 1883.

The Dacca Municipal Committee. are passed on applications presented to the municipality. Old servants of the municipality are dismissed without any reason, and new men appointed in their place on the strength of recommendations. It is said that the present just and able Vice-Chairman should not have tolerated these things. He is believed to be hampered by the Secretary, an Englishman, drawing a large salary. It is he who exercises the greatest amount of power in the municipality, but he takes no notice of the mismanagement prevailing in the municipal office. The servants of the municipality are entirely at his mercy. If true, this state of things is deplorable. It is desirable that the Secretary, instead of being a highly paid Englishman, ought to be an able native on Rs. 100 to Rs. 150. The writer questions why the old and convenient practice of collecting rates at the houses of rate-payers has not been revived. It is desirable that the municipal committee, which is now composed of natives and Europeans, should be purely native.

18. According to the same paper the present opposition to the Native Jurisdiction Bill has nothing extraordinary about it. India has now become a playground for civilians and British merchants.

DACCA PRAKAS.

The opposition of the non-official European community to Mr. Ilbert's Bill.

To protect the interests of these two classes has become the principal aim of British rule in India. As for Civilians, their only object in being here is to make money. Whenever any change calculated to benefit the natives is contemplated in the administration of the country, they howl against it. These men are supported by a Conservative league. Then comes the class of British merchants. The principal characteristic of this class is meanness. India is their field of spoliation. Civilians are united with this class in bonds of sympathy. Their love of high living often leads them to seek the help of the English planters of indigo and tea, so that when anything touches the interests of the one class, it indirectly touches the interests of the other. Then there are the English Barristers. These men are slaves of money. There is nothing in the world which they will not do for the sake of lucre. The British merchant, the British civilian, and the British Barrister are nearly related to each

other. The tie of interest and sympathy binds them all. That these three classes of men should oppose the Bill with one accord has nothing strange about it. In a similar manner the opposition of the *Englishman* newspaper, can be accounted for. It is the mouthpiece of the above three classes of men. Living as Anglo-Indian Editors do at the mercy of the above classes, they cannot help representing their views.

DACCA PRAKASH,
April 8th, 1883.

19. A correspondent of the same paper, writing from Narayanaganja complains of the oppression committed by native boatmen in charge of the ferries at

The ferries.

Narayanaganja, and Madanaganja. These men have a monopoly of ferry boats, and discourage competition by force. The consequence is that they dictate their own terms, which are generally much higher than they ought to be.

SADHARANI,
April 8th, 1883.

20. The *Sádháraní*, of the 8th April, remarks that the fate which the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill will meet with will enable the public to find out the true object for which the proclamation of

The Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill.

1858 was made. In that celebrated proclamation Her Gracious Majesty the Empress of India pledged her word to reward her subjects according to their merit, irrespective of creed and colour. Now it is to be seen whether that pledge was meant simply as a political sop or not. So that, properly speaking, the Bill, though apparently very narrow in its scope, is yet important, inasmuch as it involves great principles.

SADHARANI.

21. A correspondent of the same paper complains of the want of a post office at Dvarbasini, in the district of Hooghly. This want is keenly felt by the inhabitants of Dvarbasini, Satithan, and other

A post office at Dvarbasini, in the district of Hooghly.

villages, who have to go to the post office of Mahanada, situated at a distance of three or four miles. The inhabitants of Goai, Háur and other villages are in the rainy season compelled to cross rivers without boats or bridges before they reach the post office of Bhastara or Senihat. It is to be regretted that the postal authorities have not yet paid any attention to this subject. The inconvenience referred to may be removed by establishing a sub-post office at Dvarbasini, at a monthly cost of Rs. 20 to Rs. 25.

SOM PRAKASH,
April 9th, 1883.

22. Referring to the arguments made use of by the opponents of Mr. Ilbert's Bill, the *Som Prakás*, of the 9th April, makes the following observations:—

The Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill.

Those who speak of the special privilege enjoyed by persons in this country, namely that of being excused from attending the Court, may be answered that the privilege is one which is enjoyed not by classes, but by individuals. This mark of favour, which Government bestows on particular persons in appreciation of their merit, cannot be regarded as a privilege peculiarly Indian. As to the other privilege, namely that which is enjoyed by respectable women in this country, it may be said that it has been of late so far curtailed that it now exists only in name. So much for the objection directed against class privileges recognized in Indian law. Mr. Ilbert's Bill has placed the British nation between the horns of a dilemma. As the ruling power in India, it is its duty to protect its subjects, while, as a nation, its sympathies lead it to support the contention of the European. The conflicting nature of the duties which, on the present occasion, Government is called upon to discharge makes it clear that it will not be able to discharge the one without sacrificing the other. It is to be seen which of the two duties Government will choose to perform.

NAVABIBHAKAR,
April 9th, 1883.

23. Referring to the memorial presented to Government by the British Indian Association on the subject of the Agricultural Loans Bill, the *Navabibhakar*,

The Agricultural Loans Bill.

of the 9th April, makes the following observations :—The memorialists urge that, as the Bengal ryot has no idea that money should be spent for the purpose of improving the agriculture of the country, he will never come to Government for loans for that purpose. Now if it really comes to that, it will be a grand opportunity to the professional money-lender, who will therefore have nothing to fear from the passing of the Bill. Again, it is not clear why the attempt on the part of Government to help the ryot in his efforts to improve his land should induce the money-lender to withhold loans to the ryot. There will still be hundreds of occasions on which the ryot will be glad to borrow money from the money-lender. The fact is that one effect of the passing of the Bill will be to make the ryot to a great extent independent of his money-lender. It is clearly the duty of Government, so long as it does not directly interfere with the trade of the money-lender, to enable the ryot to partake of the benefits which it is graciously extending to him.

24. Writing about the new rules regarding *post-mortem* examinations, the same paper observes that the exclusion of Assistant Surgeons from this work except under exceptional circumstances is not just, inasmuch as many of them are better qualified than the Civil Surgeons turned out by the Scotch Universities.

NAVAVISHAKARR
April 9th, 1883.

25. The *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, of the 9th April, makes the following remarks on the effects of Mr. Ilbert's Bill:—One effect of the Bill has been to

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
April 9th 1883.

open the eyes of natives. The natives of this country have hitherto relied upon the favours of the English. They thought that Englishmen were not unfavourably disposed to them, and that what Englishmen do, they do for the benefit of natives. But now natives have become conscious of their mistake. They now see that, like oil and water, the native and the Englishman can never mix together. They have come to discover that the friendly feelings which Englishmen have hitherto shown towards the native were based on purely selfish motives. In fact, their love for the native is like a man's love for his dog. A native may adopt English customs, wear the English dress, change his paternal name, and move in English society with his wife, yet nothing can lead the Englishman to think that a native is his equal. So long as natives will rely on Englishmen for favours, their miseries will have no end. Those who have hitherto laboured to promote union between the native and Englishman have now discovered their error. Now that this mistake has been discovered, the true self-government of the native will begin. The natives will no longer regard Englishmen as pioneers of their improvement, but will continue to view them as their rivals. If the strong consciousness which Mr. Ilbert's Bill has awakened in natives does not subside into a fit of lethargy, India will surely be able to better its condition.

26. Referring to the oppression committed by Mr. Manson and Babu Kailas Chandra on the widow of Fazal Ali, of Chittagong, and disclosed in the course of the recent investigation by Mr. Badcock, the same paper observes that, considering that Mr. Rivers Thompson is to try the case, and supposing that Mr. Manson is to write an angry letter to His Honor, it is almost certain that the latter will not be visited with any hard punishment. Probably poor Kailas Babu will suffer.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

27. Referring to recent acts of oppression committed by European soldiers stationed at Barrackpore, the same paper observes that considering His Honor's action in the Rattray affair the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal will simply say: 'They did the right thing, and should do it again.' But surely a repetition of these acts will make the place scarcely fit for habitation. The Native Jurisdiction Bill has led Englishmen to these extremes. These

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

cowards could not do anything against Government, but would be glad to oppress the unarmed native.

MEDINI,
April 9th, 1883.

28. The *Medini*, of the 9th April, attributes the attempt of Mr.

Mr. Beames, a friend of the indigo-planter.

Beames to exclude the district of Midnapore from the benefit of Local Self-Government by pleading its unfitness to the interest which that gentleman has in the indigo-planters of the district. As for the indigo planters, they are exactly the class of men who will be chiefly affected by the introduction of the new policy. To be more explicit: Cattle pounds are at present the most potent engine of oppression in the hands of the indigo-planters. The road cess funds are chiefly meant for their benefit. While the whole district may be in want of good roads, it is not unoften the case that there exist good roads connecting the factories of the planters. Now, if the system of Self-Government is introduced into the district of Midnapore, a district containing numerous planters, the two advantages referred to will pass away from their hands. As Mr. Beames is a friend of the planters, he is anxious that they should retain both of them. This is the secret of Mr. Beames' verdict of unfitness, passed on the district of Midnapore. So far as intelligence and education of the people are concerned, it is as much fit to receive the new privilege as any other district in Bengal.

MEDINI.

The same paper makes the following observations on the Bengal Rent

The Bengal Rent Bill.

Bill:—After remarking that it is useless to discuss the question of rights originally vested in the zemindar and the ryot, the Editor observes that, whatever rights might have been given to the zemindar by the Government under the decennial settlement, it surely did not sell the ryot to the zemindar. As for the present Bill it gives more to the ryot than he is willing to receive, and gives very little, if any, advantage to the zemindar. After approving of the provisions relating to the transfer of the occupancy-right, the Editor points out that to hamper the zemindar in the exercise of his right of ejectment regarding ryots wilfully allowing themselves to fall into arrears is nothing but encouraging bad practices. Again, if a zemindar be willing to eject his ryot when the ryot is no defaulter in the payment of his rent, he should be allowed to do so, provided he be willing to compensate the ryot for the improvements, if any, made by the latter in his homestead. This course ought to be adopted in regard to ryots who have acquired a right of occupancy.

PRABHATI,
April 9th, 1883.

30. The *Prabhāti*, of the 9th April, remarks that it is precisely those

The Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill.

Englishmen who oppress the natives that have joined the present agitation against the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill. Among the merchants who have joined the league many have done so because they are under obligation to the tea and indigo-planters in the mofussil. Some, again, who have formed no definite opinion on the subject have been carried away by the opinions of others. They have joined the opposition because they have been requested by their friends to do so. Those who do not oppress the native are supremely indifferent to the fate of the Bill. The correctness of this assertion will be evident from the following conversation which lately took place between a European merchant and a native who is in his service. While signing the pay bills of those employed in his office, the merchant remarked with a smile, "this time your salaries will be deducted." "Why?" enquired the native officer. The merchant answered with a laugh, "because your nation is going to try Europeans." This shows that this English merchant does not think that the conferring of the proposed jurisdiction on the native will cause any loss of English interest.

31. The *Samvād Purna Chandrodaya*, of the 10th April, remarks that to improve the quality of the education imparted in zenanas in this country it is desirable that there should be established female normal schools, one in every district, and that there should be one or two inspectresses in every district head-quarters, and in every sub-division.

SAMBAD PURNA-
CHANDRODAYA,
April 10th, 1883.

The *Prajā Bandhu*, of the 10th April, thus expresses itself on the recent durbar held at Murshedabad for the purpose of investing a member of the Nawab

PRAJA BANDHU,
April 10th, 1883.

The durbar at Murshedabad.
family with the title of Nawab :—The above durbar was held not merely for the purpose of conferring the title of Nawab on the descendant of Mirjafar, but for the purpose of insulting the native, and thereby increasing the glory of the English, for the purpose of severing the connection between the native and the Englishman, and for the purpose of proclaiming the infamy of the present Liberal Government. To prove the above assertions it will be sufficient to remark that in the durbar separate seats were given to Englishmen—a distinction never met with before. The only man who had his seat among Europeans was Babu Gobinda Gupta. Again, during the reading of the sanad, the natives, including even the local Maharaja, Rajas, and Nawabs, were ordered to stand up, but even the commonest European heard the sanad read without being required to do so. Another peculiarity of the durbar was that the Europeans assembled on the occasion did not exchange even one word with the native gentlemen present. It seems that His Honor held the durbar simply for the purpose of showing the glory of the English nation. By this act His Honor has forfeited the right to be called *our* Lieutenant-Governor, for he is a friend of the Englishman, and has nothing to do with the native.

33. The following is the estimate formed by the same paper of the character of the Lieutenant-Governor :—
The Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. People thought better of His Honor when he first took charge of his high office, but his subsequent conduct, as displayed in his minute on the Pubna case, in his opposition to the Native Jurisdiction Bill, and in his recent attitude towards the Self-Government Bill has led them to reverse their opinion regarding him.

PRAJA BANDHU.

34. The *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 11th April, draws the attention of the municipal committee of Boalia to the inconvenience created by the accumulation of dust in the roads of the town. Some means for watering the streets of the town, at least either from December or from January to May, ought to be adopted at any price, even at the expense of reducing the establishment for lighting the town.

HINDU RANJIKA,
April 11th, 1883.

35. The same paper observes that, besides the anomalies which Mr. Ilbert's Bill contemplates removing, there are sections in the Criminal Procedure Code equally objectionable. The following is an instance in point : In cases of sentences admitting of appeal passed by Sub-Divisional Officers vested with criminal jurisdiction, the prisoner is not enlarged on bail until he files an appeal in the Court of the District Sessions Judge. In most cases it takes so much time to file the appeal that the prisoner often serves out his whole sentence before he can get the benefit of the filing of the appeal. Now, what the Editor would like to see is that appeals should be allowed to be filed in the very Court which passes the sentence, and that the prisoners be released on filing their appeals.

HINDU RANJIKA.

36. The *Prabhāti*, of the 11th April, in refuting the arguments of the *Englishman* newspaper, directed against the letter of Sir Arthur Hobhouse, remarks :—In

PRABHATI,
April 11th, 1883.

the opinion of that newspaper the present agitation cannot admit of any comparison with the agitation of 1837, inasmuch as the agitation of 1837 was only a partial one, whereas the present one is universal in its character. The reason of this difference in the character of the two agitations is not far to seek. The agitation of 1837 was got up against the proposal to make civil suits of Europeans triable by natives. But the connection of Englishmen with civil suits in this country small, so that the Bill of 1837 affected only a small section of the English community in India. But how do the facts stand now? Here is a Bill which threatens to affect the whole English community: hence the intensity of the present opposition. Now, the above objection shows that, according to that paper, it is easier for an Englishman here to commit criminal than civil offences. If the fact be so, then that would only show that the necessity for the present Bill is greater than ever.

BALASORE
SAMBAD PATRIKA,
March 22nd, 1883.

37. The *Sambád Patriká*, of the 22nd March, says:—"The time of our Magistrate's departure is gradually drawing near. Mr. Beadon has been in this

district for three and a half years. Now that we have become acquainted with him, he is about to leave us. It will take a long time to become acquainted with his successor. Though it is not desirable that a Magistrate should remain for ever, or even for a long time in any one district, yet there is this advantage of a long residence, say for five or seven years, in a district,—that he gets by this means to know the wants of the inhabitants in a manner not possible to a Magistrate staying for a short time only. Mr. Beadon is hardworking, painstaking, and of good judgment, and devoted to literature. He takes a deep interest in the work of the Education Department. He is very courteous towards those who visit him at his house, and has always been zealous in originating works by which the Government might be benefited. Mr. Beadon does not work in a hasty or careless manner, hence all his work is marked by completeness."

UTKAL DIPIKÁ,
March 31st, 1883.

38. The *Utkal Dipiká*, of the 31st March, expresses its approval of the proposal made by the *Banga Basi* newspaper, to the effect that the power of confirming and dismissing municipal officers.

ing and dismissing municipal officials should be vested in the Commissioners, and not in the Chairman. "We have in this town," says the writer, "examples of the evils which result from the Chairman having this power. Our Vice-Chairman, Mr. Manisty, dismissed without cause a worthy clerk, and appointed in his place one who threw dust in his eyes and appropriated to himself municipal funds. Those subsequently appointed have not commended themselves to the public as competent. It is necessary that measures should be adopted to prevent incompetent persons from holding municipal appointments. This would be done if appointments were made by the Commissioners."

RAJKRISHNA MUKHOPADHYAYA, M.A. & B.L.,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 14th April 1883.